

HOUSE BILL 2947  
By Patton

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 30, relative to employment of health educators.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 30, Part 3, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section \_\_\_\_\_. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), when a career service position is created to employ a health educator or a vacancy occurs in such positions, the position shall only be filled by an individual who has been certified as a health educator by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. Proof of certification by such commission shall be filed with the application for the position.

(b) If a certified health educator meeting the requirements of subsection (a) has not applied or is not available for employment for a vacant or new position for a health educator, the department of health shall endeavor to fill the position with a person who has graduated with a major in health education from a four (4) year college or university. If after a reasonable period of time a qualified person who has graduated with a major in health education has not applied or is not available for employment for such position, then the department of health shall fill the position with a person who has graduated with a major in a related field to health education from a four (4) year college or university.

(c) Nothing in this act shall be construed in any way to limit or diminish the duties and responsibilities of the commissioner of personnel with respect to establishing class

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titles for such positions as they appear within the department's classification compensation plan or directing and supervising all administrative and technical activities with respect to such positions or otherwise administering the provisions of this title as they may apply to such positions.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.